REMARKS

The August 30, 2005 Office Action was based upon pending Claims 1-51. By this Response, Applicant is amending Claims 16 and 29 and is cancelling Claims 14, 15, 24–28 and 38–46 without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, after entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-13, 16-23, 29-37 and 47-51 are pending and presented for further consideration. In view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-13, 16-23, 29-37 and 47-51 are in condition for allowance.

REJECTIONS

The Office Action rejected Claims 1–5, 7–11, 14–17, 27–30, 32–39 and 47–50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,815,647 to Buckland et al. ("Buckland") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,943,482 to Culley et al. ("Culley").

The Office Action rejected Claims 6 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Culley, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,819,042 to Hansen ("Hansen").

The Office Action rejected Claims 6, 12, 13, 18–26, 31 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Official Notice. Furthermore, the Office Action rejected Claims 40–46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Culley, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,125,390 to Touboul ("Touboul").

The Office Action also rejected Claims 1–51 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1–17 of U.S. Patent No. 6,711,645 and Claims 1–18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,134,615.

CLAIM REJECTIONS FOR OBVIOUSNESS-TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING

The Office Action rejected Claims 1–13, 16–23, 29–37 and 40–51 under the so-called non-statutory, obviousness-type double patenting rejection. In response, Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c). Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the August 30, 2005 Office Action, the Office Action rejected Claims 1–13, 16–23, 29–37 and 47–51 as being unpatentable over Buckland in view one or more of the following references and/or Official Notice: Culley, Hansen and Touboul.

Rejections Based on Buckland and Culley

The Office Action rejected Claims 1–5, 7–11, 14–17, 27–30, 32–39 and 47–50 as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Culley.

Independent Claim 1

Focusing on independent Claim 1, one embodiment of Applicant's invention includes an electronic device having one or more slots configured to receive at least one peripheral adapter. The electronic device further includes a software module configured to provide a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected slot in the electronic device is configured to support a hot input function. The electronic device also comprises one or more hardware modules configured to control the power to the selected slot.

Neither Buckland, nor Culley, nor a combination thereof, teaches or suggests the electronic device recited in Claim 1. In particular, neither of the references teaches or suggests a software module configured to provide <u>a graphical user interface that</u> <u>indicates whether a selected slot in the electronic device is configured to support a hot</u> <u>input function</u>. In the August 30, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that "Buckland does not teach a GUI indicating whether a selected slot in the electronic device is configured to support a hot insertion function."

Culley also does not teach or suggest a software module configured to provide a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected slot in the electronic device is configured to support a hot input function. With respect to Culley, the Examiner states:

> Culley et al teaches (via a history vector) whether a selected slot in a device is capable of supporting a hot insert function . . .. It would have been obvious . . . to include an indication that the slot can not accept hot insertion in the system of Buckland et al because this would have allowed for preventing using a slot that cannot accept a new device.

In particular, the portions of Culley cited by the Examiner (i.e., col. 89, lines 16–30, col. 91, lines 35–46 and col. 92, lines 37–39) relate to a method for identifying and isolating defective or faulty slots. None of the cited portions, however, relate to a graphical user interface or to informing a user if a particular slot is configured to support a hot input function. Furthermore, Applicant's counsel was unable to find any reference in Culley to any type of graphical user interface.

Because the cited references do not teach or suggest a software module configured to provide a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected slot in an electronic device is configured to support a hot input function, Applicant asserts that Claim 1 is patentably distinguished over the cited art. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests allowance of Claim 1.

Independent Claims 4, 16, 29, 34 and 47

Independent Claims 4, 16, 29, 34 and 47 are believed to be patentable for reasons similar to those set forth with respect to the patentability of independent Claim 1 and for the different aspects recited therein. That is, the cited art does not teach or suggest a user interface that indicates if a particular adapter location is configured to support a hot input function.

Dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, 7–11, 17, 30, 32, 33, 35–37 and 48–50

Claims 2 and 3 depend from independent Claim 1 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 5 and 7–11 depend from independent Claim 4 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 17 depends from independent Claim 16 and is believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 30, 32 and 33 depend from independent Claim 29 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 35–37 depend from independent Claim 34 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 48–50 depend from independent Claim 47 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Rejections Based on Buckland, Culley and Hansen

The Office Action rejected Claims 6 and 12 as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Culley and in further view of Hansen.

Independent Claim 12

Independent Claim 12 is believed to be patentable for reasons similar to those set forth with respect to the patentability of independent Claim 1 and for the different aspects recited therein. That is, the cited art, including Hansen, does not teach or suggest a means in communication with a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected adapter location is configured to support a hot input function.

Dependent Claim 6

Claim 6 depends from independent Claim 1 and is believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein. For instance, the cited art, including Hansen, does not teach or suggest a software module configured to provide a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected slot in an electronic device is configured to support a hot input function.

Rejections Based on Buckland and Official Notice

The Office Action rejected Claims 6, 12, 13, 18–26, 31 and 51 as being unpatentable over Buckland in view of Official Notice.

Independent Claim 21

Independent Claim 21 is believed to be patentable for reasons similar to those set forth with respect to the patentability of independent Claim 1 and for the different aspects recited therein. That is, neither the cited art nor common knowledge in the art teaches or suggests a user interface configured to provide one or more screen displays for communicating information to a user as to whether a selected adapter location is configured to support a hot insert function.

Independent Claims 12, 18 and 51

Independent Claims 12, 18 and 51 are believed to be patentable for reasons similar to those set forth with respect to the patentability of independent Claim 1 and for the different aspects recited therein. That is, neither the cited art nor common

knowledge in the art teaches or suggests a user interface for communicating information to a user as to whether a selected adapter location is configured to support a hot input function and for communicating steps for hot inserting an adapter.

Dependent Claims 6, 13, 19–23, 31

Claim 6 depends from independent Claim 1 and is believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein. For instance, neither the cited art nor common knowledge in the art teaches or suggests a software module configured to provide a graphical user interface that indicates whether a selected slot in an electronic device is configured to support a hot input function.

Claim 13 depends from independent Claim 12 and is believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 19 and 20 depend from independent Claim 18 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claims 22 and 23 depend from independent Claim 21 and are believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein.

Claim 31 depends from independent Claim 29 and is believed to be patentable for the additional features recited therein. For instance, neither the cited art nor common knowledge in the art teaches or suggests a user interface module configured to indicate whether or not a selected adapter location is configured to support a hot input function and comprising a series of screen displays exhibiting steps to hot input an adapter.

Applicant's Traversal of Official Notice

With respect to Claims 6, 12, 18, 21, 24, 31 and 51, the Examiner takes Official Notice that "step by step instructions are common as evidenced by Hansen Figures 4–8." The Examiner further states that "[i]t would have been obvious to include several screens with step by step instructions because this would have allowed for minimally trained personnel to control the insertion/removal of the device(s)."

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion of Official Notice. In particular, Figures 4–8 of Hansen appear to illustrate user interfaces depicting a map of network devices and user interfaces for <u>obtaining</u> information from a user regarding the

configuration of a particular device (see, e.g., col. 14, lines 21–36). Thus, Applicant respectfully requests documentary evidence supporting the Examiner's assertion that is well known to provide a graphical user interface for <u>displaying information</u> (such as, for example, through a plurality of screen displays) <u>regarding steps for hot inputting an adapter</u>. Absent such documentation, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the assertion of Official Notice as support for any rejection.

REQUEST FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 713.01, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicant's undersigned attorney of record hereby formally requests a telephone interview with the Examiner as soon as the Examiner has considered the effect of the arguments presented above. Applicant's attorney can be reached at the general office number listed below.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If further issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned such that any remaining issues may be promptly resolved.
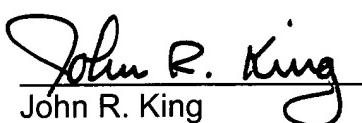
Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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